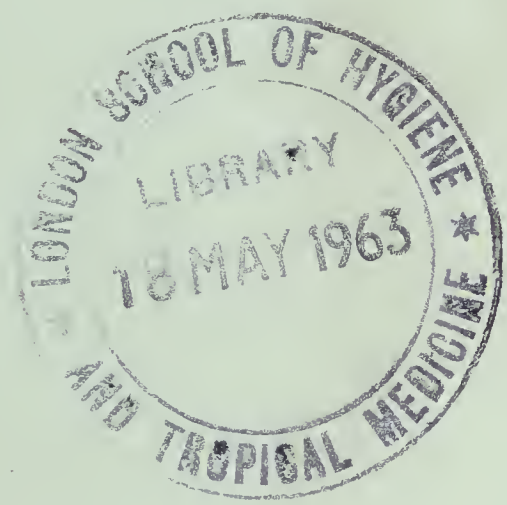


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ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



ROMSEY AND STOCKBRIDGE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

to the

ROMSEY AND STOCKBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

To the Chairman and Members of the Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your information and consideration the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District.

During the year the remainder of the hutted camps in your District were closed, the former occupants being re-housed in new houses built by the Council. More small houses and flats suitable for elderly people are being built by the Council. Few of the houses built by private enterprise are available for letting. All houses are built with construction and drainage complying with modern standards as far as possible. There was steady progress in the extension of water mains in several Parishes and the majority of householders whose houses could be connected have availed themselves of the improved water supply.

No action was taken under Section 57 of the National Assistance Act to remove people who were not able to manage their own homes but several people were visited (mainly elderly people) and advised and helped so that official implimentation of the Act became unnecessary.

In my Annual Report for 1958 I drew attention to the need for further sewage disposal schemes. The piped water supply is being installed at Stockbridge and plans are being made for a sewage disposal scheme there, a necessity now but a matter which will become urgent when water is more easily available from a piped supply. Because of the rapid increase in the number of houses in Nursling and Rownhams it became necessary to extend sewers there and this work is proceeding. Many of the older houses will not be able to connect to these new sewers and the problem of sewerage in this Parish is by no means solved. The needs for sewers in Wellow and Chilworth and the rapidly growing North Baddesley are matters requiring your attention.

There has been notable improvement in the garbage disposal service. A scheme for fortnightly, instead of twice monthly collection of house refuse has been devised and since the early summer a most satisfactory standard of controlled tipping has been maintained.

The passing of the new Mental Health Act was noted by your Council. The County Council, as the Local Health Authority, is taking action, but it has been pointed out that, "the public must be the real doctors in connection with the preventive services and care of people affected by the Mental Health Act" so that the enlightenment of public opinion in the District is of major importance.

I am grateful to Mr. Smith, your Chief Public Health Inspector for his co-operation in the preparation of Sections C, D and E.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. JACKSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Staff

Medical Officer of Health	...	...	...	...	E. JACKSON
(Part-time, 1 day per week)					M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	...	...	...		H.G. SMITH
					R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Additional Public Health Inspector	...	...			D.G. ANDREWS
					R.S.H., A.R.S.H.
Rodent Officer	...	...	...	...	G. RAWLINS
Clerk	...	...	...	...	Miss J.A. PROOM

SECTION A. - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA - General Statistics

Area (Acres)	...	...	...	...	...	82,606
Population (as estimated by the Registrar General)						21,740
Rateable Value (1.4.59)	...	...	...	...	...	£247,988
Product of each penny of General Rate (1.4.59)	...					£982.08
Number of Council Houses built (before 1939)	...	...				294
Number of Council Houses built after 1944	...	...				538
						832
Number of Council Houses completed during 1959	...					30
Total Number of inhabited houses						6,320

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1959, AS SUPPLIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

	Total	Male	Female
Live Births-			
Total Registered	373	171	202
Legitimate	357	163	194
Illegitimate	16	8	8
Still Births-			
Total Registered	6	3	3
Legitimate	6	3	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0

	Total	Male	Female
Total live and still births	379	174	205
Deaths-			
Total Registered	101	103	88
Maternal Deaths	0	-	0
Infant Deaths-			
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	7	5	2
Legitimate	5	3	2
Illegitimate	2	2	0
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age			
Total Registered	5	4	1
Legitimate	4	3	1
Illegitimate	1	1	0

Comparative Statistics
where available

	Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District	England and Wales
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	17.1	16.5
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births	15.9	20.7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births		
Total	18.7	22.0
Legitimate	13.4	
Illegitimate	125.0	
Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	13.4	
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	4.3	
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births	2.6	
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	8.8	11.6

Comparability Factors

Births 1.06

Deaths 1.07

CAUSE OF DEATH DURING 1959

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (other forms)	0	0	0
Syphilitic Disease	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infections	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Other Infections and Parasitic Diseases	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	1	3
" " Lung and Bronchus	6	0	6
" " Breast	0	0	0
" " Uterus	-	2	2

	Male	Female	Total
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	7	11	18
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	0	1	1
Diabetes	2	0	2
Vascular lesions of the Nervous System	13	17	30
Coronary Disease, Angina	24	10	34
Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	0	2
Other Heart Diseases	7	17	24
Other Circulatory Diseases	4	5	9
Influenza	0	3	3
Pneumonia	6	4	10
Bronchitis	7	3	10
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	0	2
Ulcers of Stomach and Duodenum	2	0	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	0	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	0	0	0
Hyperplasia of Prostate	0	-	0
Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	-	1	1
Congenital Malformations	3	1	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	8	15
Motor Vehicle Accidents	6	1	7
All other accidents	2	1	3
Suicide	0	0	0
Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
Total	103	88	191

Comments on the Vital Statistics.

The various rates calculated from the births and deaths are not statistically different from previous years. The toll of road accident deaths is a reflection of the generally occurring carnage on our roads.

SECTION B. - GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICE

1. The Medical Officer of Health is also the Medical Officer of Health of the Borough of Romsey and an Assistant County Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer of the Hampshire County Council. This combined appointment helps to co-ordinate the medical services supplied by the County Council as the Local Health Authority in accordance with Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, with the services supplied by the District Council.

Your Council also has nine representatives on the County Council District Health Sub-Committee - the District comprising the area of Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District and Romsey Borough. The Medical Officer of Health also attends quarterly Meetings of the District Health Sub-Committee.

2. The County Council supply the following services:-

(a) Ambulance Service.

Ambulances are stationed at Romsey (1) and Broughton (1) and controlled from the County Council Offices at Winchester. Additional ambulances can be sent to the District from the depot at Winchester.

(b) Nursing in the Home

District Nurses are responsible for domiciliary midwifery and home nursing. They keep in close touch with the County Council Health Visitors, the Medical Officer of Health and the General Practitioners of their areas. No nursing arrangements or contribution is made by the District Council but nine members represent the Council on the District Health Sub-Committee of the County Council.

District Nurses

Miss P.R. Cork, 8, Winfrith Way, Nursling, Nr. Southampton.
Miss M. Laycock, 74, Chambers Avenue, Romsey.
Miss M. Neal, 2, New Road, Middle Wallop, Nr. Stockbridge. (Left 31.10.59)
Mrs. M. Parkinson, Pound House, Spearywell, Mottisfont.
Miss S. Rowell, Nurses Cottage, West Wellow, Nr. Romsey.
Miss B.D. Sharp, 74, Chambers Avenue, Romsey.
Mrs. S.A. Sheppard, 'Ty-Cwm', Horsebridge Road, King's Somborne.

Combined Duties

In two areas of the Rural District there is a combined duties appointment and one person does the duties of District Nurse, Midwife and Health Visitor.

Miss M.M. Chapman, 'Crantock', High Street, Broughton, Hants.
Miss I.C. Clarke, 'Newlands', Rectory Hill, West Dean, Nr. Salisbury.

Health Visitors

Miss M.L. Collins, H.C.C. Health Centre, Junction Road, Andover.
Miss K. Glister, H.C.C. Health Centre, Totton. (From September, 1959)
Miss Porter, 6, St. Catherines Road, Bitterne Park, Southampton.
Mrs. M.E. Ward, Flat 2, Harefield House, Mile Hill, Romsey.
Mrs. C.E. Watts, 41, Newlands Avenue, Southampton.
Miss Williams, 'Landsbrook', Landford, Nr. Salisbury (Left September, 1959)
Miss D.D. Woodcock, 48, Ashfield Road, Andover.

(c) Child Welfare Services

The County Council employ Health Visitors, who visit children from the age of two weeks, when they pass from the care of the District Nurse, until the age of five years when the child enters school.

In addition the County Council hold child welfare clinics in this district as indicated:-

Broughton	2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
Houghton	2nd Monday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
King's Somborne	1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
Lockerley	2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
Leckford	3rd Tuesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
Mottisfont	2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
North Baddesley	1st and 3rd Friday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
Nursling	2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
Over Wallop	1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
Romsey	Every Thursday at 10 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
Stockbridge	1st and 3rd Friday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
Wellow	2nd and 4th Friday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
West Tytherley	1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.

The Child Welfare Clinics are staffed by Health Visitors, Assistant County Medical Officers and voluntary helpers. The District Nurses generally attend these Clinics.

(d) Care of Mothers and Young Children

Ante-natal care is given by General Practitioners in the district, and by the District Nurses, and some patients attend Maternity Hospitals in Winchester, Salisbury or Southampton. Dental care is provided for expectant mothers and for children under school age.

(e) Home Help Service

This service is provided for mothers confined at home, for those in charge of the elderly, the chronic sick etc. The District Health Sub-Committee receive reports.

(f) Vaccination and Immunisation

See Section 'F' of this report - Infectious Diseases Prophylaxis.

(g) Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care

These services are part of the duties of Health Visitors, District Nurses, Public Health Inspectors and Medical Officers.

3. Hospital Services

The South West Regional Hospital Board supply general maternity and infectious diseases (including tuberculosis and smallpox) hospital services for this area.

4. Laboratory Facilities

Laboratory facilities are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Winchester, the M.R.C. Laboratory, Southampton and the Pathology Department, Salisbury General Infirmary.

SECTION C. - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water Supply

- (i) Forty-five (45) samples of water from private sources were submitted for bacteriological examination. Twenty-eight (28) were found to be satisfactory. Of the twenty-five samples submitted from the Council's mains, twelve (12) were satisfactory, the unsatisfactory results were from new mains and were taken before any consumers were connected.

Three (3) samples submitted for Chemical Analysis were satisfactory.

- (ii) The Southampton Corporation remain the Statutory Undertakers for the following Parishes:-

Ampfield, Chilworth, Braishfield, Michelmersh, Mottisfont, North Baddesley, Nursling and Rownhams, Romsey Extra and part of Sherfield English.

The West Hants Water Company supply water to Wellow and a part of the Parish of Sherfield English.

Work was almost completed on Stage 3 of the Council's water supply scheme which includes the construction of a reservoir at Chattis Hill and the extension of the mains to Stockbridge, Houghton, Nether Wallop and Over Wallop.

- (iii) No cases of contamination by lead were experienced during the year.

- (iv) The number of premises connected to the mains are shewn in Table (vi) below.

Formal action to secure an internal piped supply was taken on three occasions.

- (v) The following extensions of water mains were completed during the year:-

Parish	Length in yards	Diam. of Mains in inches
Ampfield	124	4
"	245	3
Braishfield	77	4
Broughton	1,880	8
Chilworth	40	4
"	62	3
Houghton	1,270	8
"	3,390	6
"	1,220	4
"	210	3
Melchet Park and Plaitford	1,150	3

Parish	Length in yards	Diam. of Mains in inches
Nether Wallop	6,400	8
" "	370	6
" "	1,760	4
" "	740	3
Wellow	520	3
North Baddesley	660	4
" "	140	3
Longstock	1,100	8
" "	300	6
Over Wallop	330	8
" "	990	6
" "	2,280	4
" "	500	3
Sherfield English	69	6
" "	393	4
Stockbridge	160	8
" "	710	6

(vi)

Parish	Number of Houses
Ampfield	329
Ashley	5
Bossington	5
Braishfield	141
Broughton	218
Chilworth	280
East Dean	68
East Tytherley	22
Frenchmoor	11
King's Sonborne	194
Lockerley	165
Melchet Park and Plaitford	56
Michelmersh	135
Mottisfont	3
North Baddesley	669
Nursling and Rownhams	752
Romsey Extra	192
Sherfield English	280
Wellow	367
West Tytherley	2

2. Sewerage

No new lengths of sewer were laid during the year. It was decided to extend the sewers in the Parish of Nursling and Rownhams to the Rownhams area, this will serve the recent development in Rownhams and some of the older houses.

There are at present 333 dwellings connected to the main sewer in the Parish of Nursling and Rownhams and 461 in the Parish of North Baddesley.

It is hoped that the Council will be in a position to proceed with a sewerage scheme for the Parish of Stockbridge during 1960.

The unsatisfactory conditions at Stockbridge to which the Council's attention has already been directed will be further aggravated by the natural increase in water consumption through the installation of a mains supply, in addition there is the danger of the introduction of disease by the ever increasing number of road travellers stopping in this Parish for refreshments at the Cafes and Public Houses.

I am concerned that there is a number of Public Houses in this area still relying on pail closets. It is often a very short distance for the fly to travel from the Closet to the room in which food is served and when it is realised that this area adjoins the passenger port of Southampton with hundreds of people from abroad having access to these antiquated conveniences the necessity of Water Closets is obvious.

SECTION D. - HOUSING

- (i) All Hutted Camps under this Council's control were closed during 1959.
- (ii) Thirty (30) Council Houses were erected during the year.
- (iii) One hundred and fifty-one (151) houses were erected by private enterprise.
- (vi) Hutted Camps under the control of the Local Authority.

Number of Huts occupied at the end of the year	Number of Huts demolished	Estimated number of persons remaining in occupation
NIL	13	NIL

(v) Movable Dwellings

There are sixty-nine (69) movable dwellings with separate licences and thirteen (13) licenced sites providing accommodation for one hundred and sixty-one (161) caravans.

The gypsy problem remains, these people are in some instances families who have taken to this kind of life since the war, they are not the families who used to refer to themselves as travellers but are people making a living from collecting iron and rags throughout the area and selling to dealers in Southampton.

They enter land without the owner's permission and refuse to move. The only remedy the owner has is to hire a tractor and haul the vans onto the road, only to see them move in again within a few days or weeks.

They are often extremely untidy and leave behind a collection of unsaleable material which the owner, at his own expense, must remove.

Land owners have erected new fences to keep these people out only to find the fences removed within a few days and their unwelcome guests once again in possession.

This is a problem which in this area, is increasing, especially in the Parishes of Nursling and Rownhams and Chilworth which adjoin Southampton.

4. Public Cleansing

The fortnightly collection of refuse was commenced during the year and although at first it caused a little confusion the scheme is now very satisfactory.

There have been some complaints from people living in the Southern Parishes who would like the refuse collected at least once a week and who object to carrying the bins to the roadside, but residents of the Northern and more Rural Parishes often express the view that even a fortnightly collection is unnecessary.

The acquisition of the tractor to assist with refuse disposal at the Council's tip was a great success, it enabled all refuse taken to the tip to be covered daily and the Ministry's recommendations for controlled tips were complied with in all respects.

The fire which commenced during April, 1958 is still burning although most of the area affected by the fire has now been covered with sand, it is intended to cover the remainder before May, 1960.

Refuse from Romsey Borough is disposed of by this Authority.

SECTION E. - FOOD

- (i) There is no licenced slaughter-house in the district.
- (ii) Thirty-two (32) samples of Pasteurised milk were submitted for examination. All proved satisfactory. The two batch Pasteurising Plants were visited weekly.

- (iii) Registration of premises under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Premises Registered for manufacture of Ice-cream	Registration for Sale of Ice-cream	Registration for preparation or manufacture of sausages
1	83	10

Fourteen samples of Ice-cream were examined and all placed in Provisional Grade I. It is certainly a credit to the trade when one realises that only a few years ago the Grade I samples were the exception rather than the rule. Today it would be an exception to find a sample which is not Grade I.

- (iv) Number of Food Premises in the Area:-

Licenced Premises	56
Restaurants	18
Food Stores	86
Bake-houses	3
Butchers Shops	11
Fish Shops	2

- (v) Food Hygiene Regulations 1955-1956

Routine inspections under the above Regulations have been made during the year.

- (vi) Condemed Food-stuffs

The following articles of food were voluntarily surrendered during the year.

1 x 6lb tin of Fruit Salad.
4 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of Mutton.
1 x 6lb. tin of Corned Beef.
18 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Salt Beef.

- (vii) No cases of Food Poisoning were reported during the year.

6. Factories

- (i) Inspection for the purpose of provision as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	M/c. Line No.	No. on Register	Inspection	Number of Notices Written	Occup's Pros'ted	M/c. Line No.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
(i) Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	5	5	-	-	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	60	32	1	-	2
(iii) Other premises which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers)	3	-	-	-	-	3
TOTAL ...		65	37	1	-	

(ii) Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	M/c. Line No.	Number of Cases in which Defects were					M/c. Line No.
(1)	(2)	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions	(8)
Want of cleanliness (Sec.1)	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Overcrowding (Sec.2)	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
Unreasonable temperature (Sec.3)	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Inadequate ventilation (Sec.4)	7	-	-	-	-	-	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (Sec.6)	8	-	-	-	-	-	8
Sanitary Conveniences (Sec.7)	9	-	-	-	-	-	9
(a) Insufficient							
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	1	1	-	1	-	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	-	-	-	-	-	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	12	-	-	-	-	-	12
TOTAL	60	1	1	-	1	-	60

- (iii) Eight (8) Outworkers were employed in the District in the making of wearing apparel. All premises were inspected and found satisfactory.

7. Rodent Control

The rodent control staff consisting of the Rodent Officer and one operator surveyed three hundred and thirty-seven (337) Agricultural Premises, forty (40) Business Premises and six hundred and ninety-four (694) Private Dwellings. In addition they dealt with two hundred and forty-six (246) infestations in Private Houses and sixty-four (64) infestations on Agricultural land and Business Premises.

8. Nuisance from flies

Many complaints were received of fly infestations in houses and in Churches, these flies were of the cluster type and infestations occurred throughout the district, treatments were carried out with D.D.T. smoke generators but in some instances the smoke did not appear to penetrate to the site of the infestations.

These fly infestations were fairly common throughout the whole country.

SECTION F. - PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifications of Infectious Disease received during the year 1959 are tabulated below.

Notification by age-groups

Disease	Total Notified	Under 1 yr.	1 - 2 yrs.	3 - 4 yrs.	5 - 9 yrs.	10 - 14 yrs.	15 - 44 yrs.	45 - 64 yrs.	65 and over	Fatalities
Scarlet Fever	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	16	-	4	2	10	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis										
Paralytic	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	143	-	23	27	72	19	2	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	14	1	-	-	5	4	4	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	11	-	-	2	2	-	2	3	2	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis										
Respiratory	8	-	-	1	-	-	5	2	-	-
Non-respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Many cases of measles, mumps, whooping-cough and diarrhoea are not notified.

Immunisation against Diphtheria

The estimated number of children in the area who had completed a full course of diphtheria immunisation by 31st December, 1959, was as follows.

Children born in 1959	64
" " between 1955 - 58	850
" " " 1950 - 54	1,126
" " " 1945 - 49	1,426

These figures for under 5 year olds represent about 60% of all children in the age group. During the year nearly all of the children immunised against Diphtheria were at the same time given protection against whooping-cough and tetanus.

There has been a marked drop in the proportion of children receiving a 'booster' injection prior to entering school when 5 years old. This is dangerous; although there were no cases of Diphtheria in this area there was an increase in the number of cases in the country as a whole during 1959.

Vaccination against Smallpox

Two hundred and eleven (211) primary vaccinations were done in the district during the year and about eighty-two (82) re-vaccinations. Among the primary vaccinations two hundred and two (202) were of children. The figure for babies vaccinated when expressed as a percentage of the live births in the area represents only 46% - next to the lowest for all the twenty-six (26) districts of the County. I must again emphasise that the proportion of people vaccinated in the District is not adequate to form a barrier against the spread of smallpox, were this introduced from countries where the disease is prevalent. Travellers from such countries arrive at the sea and air ports in the boroughs whose boundaries march with this District.

During the year the Medical Research Council instituted an investigation into the best timing for the many prophylactic injections that are now advised for children. It is suggested that the best place to fit smallpox vaccination into the scheme is during the second year of life. This suggestion is not accepted in all countries but it is probable that in England vaccination during the second year of life will become more common than during the first year.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Three thousand, three hundred and seventy-nine (3,379) people received their first two injections during the year, and three thousand, four hundred and twenty-seven (3,427) received their third injections during the year. As there is an interval of at least seven months between the second and third injection and as provision for a third injection was only made late in 1958 some of these third injections were given to people who had been vaccinated in 1957 - 58.

Almost all the injections were again given by the family doctors and the administrative work of record keeping and distribution of vaccine was done in the Office of your Medical Officer of Health.

